

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please **AMEND** claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, and 9 as shown below.

Please **ADD** claims 13-25 as shown below.

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) Acoustically effective nonwoven (1) for linings of motor vehicles, comprising a porous fibrous skeleton (2) made of coarse fibers (8), ~~in particular comprising staple fibers or spunbonded fibers~~, and which fibrous skeleton (2) has a continuously changing weight quota of ~~melted-on~~ melted-on microfibrous material (7) in a front and/or rear surface region (4, 10), a region of the fibrous skeleton (2) comprising said melted-on microfibrous material (7), said melted-on microfibrous material (7) clinging to the coarse fibers (8) and bonding these in such a manner that the nonwoven (1) has a predetermined air flow resistance and is stiffened at least in its surface region (4, 10) by a predetermined bending stiffness in such a manner that the nonwoven becomes self-supporting.

2. (Currently amended) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein the coarse fibers (8) have a titre of more than 1 dtex, ~~in particular in the range of 1 to 35 dtex, and preferably a titre of 6 to 17 dtex~~.

3. (Currently amended) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein the coarse fibers (8) are spunbonded fibers ~~and in particular are made of a polyester, a polypropylene or a polyamide, and preferably are made of PET~~.

4. (Previously presented) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein said nonwoven (1) comprises non-melted on microfibers (9).

5. (Currently amended) Nonwoven according to claim 4, wherein the non-melted on microfibers (9) have a titre in the range of 0.01 to 1.0 dtex, ~~preferably a titre of 0.1 to 0.6 dtex and typically a titre of around 0.2 dtex.~~

6. (Currently amended) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein the microfibrous material (7) is a meltblown fibrous material, ~~in particular is made of a polyester, a co-polyester, a polyamide, a co-polyamide, a polypropylene, a co-polypropylene or similar, and preferably is made of PET or Co-PET.~~

7. (Previously presented) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein the coarse fibers (8) have a higher melting point than the microfibrous material (7).

8. (Currently amended) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein the air flow resistance in the surface region (4) of the fibrous nonwoven (1) has a value of between ~~200 to 5000~~ 200 to 60,000 Nsm⁻³, ~~in particular between 800 to 2500, preferably 1400 Nsm⁻³.~~

9. (Currently amended) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein the bending stiffness (B) of the fibrous nonwoven (1) has a value of between 0.005 and 10 Nm ~~and in particular has a value of between 0.025 to 6.0 Nm.~~

10. (Previously presented) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein said nonwoven is combined with at least one further nonwoven.

11. (Previously presented) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein said nonwoven is provided with an air impermeable layer.

12. (Previously presented) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein said nonwoven is provided with a decorative layer.

13. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 1, wherein the porous fibrous skeleton (2) comprises staple fibers or spunbonded fibers.

14. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 2, wherein the coarse fibers (8) have a titre in the range of 1 to 35 dtex.

15. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 14, wherein the coarse fibers (8) have a titre in the range of 6 to 17 dtex.

16. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 3, wherein the coarse fibers (8) are spunbonded fibers made of a polyester, a polypropylene or a polyamide.

17. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 3, wherein the coarse fibers (8) are spunbonded fibers made of PET.

18. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 5, wherein the non-melted on microfibers (9) have a titre in the range of 0.1 to 0.6 dtex.

19. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 18, wherein the non-melted on microfibers (9) have a titre of around 0.2 dtex.

20. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 6, wherein the microfibrous material (7) is a meltblown fibrous material made of a polyester, a co-polyester, a polyamide, a co-polyamide, a polypropylene, a co-polypropylene or similar.

21. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 6, wherein the microfibrous material (7) is a meltblown fibrous material made of PET or Co-PET.

22. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 8, wherein the air flow resistance in the surface region (4) of the fibrous nonwoven (1) has a value of between 800 to 35,000 Nsm⁻³.

23. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 22, wherein the air flow resistance in the surface region (4) of the fibrous nonwoven (1) has a value of between 1,000 to 20,000 Nsm⁻³.

24. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 23, wherein the air flow resistance in the surface region (4) of the fibrous nonwoven (1) has a value of about 1,400 Nsm⁻³.

25. (New) Nonwoven according to claim 9, wherein the bending stiffness (B) of the fibrous nonwoven (1) has a value of between 0.025 to 6.0 Nm.